(b) if so, which oil companies have been granted licence; and

(c) the places selected by each of these oil companies to set up crude oil refineries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c). Apart from the existing operating refineries, Government have issued Letter of Intents for setting up of new Refineries in the Public/Joint Venture as under:

Name of the Company	Refinery Project	Capacity (MMTPA)
IOC	Panipat Refinery	6.00
IOC	East Coast JV Refinery in Orissa	6.00
HPCL	West Coast JV Refinery in Maharashtra	6.00
HPCL	Joint Venture Refinery in Punjab	6.00
BPCL	Joint Venture Refinery in U.P.	7.00
Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.	Joint Venture Refinery in Numaligarh (Assam)	3.00
HPCL	MRPL Refinery in JV (Karnataka)	9.00
BPCL	Joint Venture Refinery in Bina, M.P.	6.00

Import of Crude

147. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC has prepared a scheme as a part of its efforts to meet the gigantic task of reducing growing dependence on imported crude;

(b) if so, whether the ONGC and Oil India has decided to discover new reserves and increase production;

(c) whether any detailed project reports have been prepared by the Ministry; and

(d) if so, by what time the work on these projects are likely to be started and the details of the projects that are likely to be undertaken in 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. Several schemes have been prepared by ONGC to increase production of crude oil. These are -

1. Implementation of new projects/schemes and additional development of existing fields.
2. Implementation of EOR Schemes and extending some of EOR Schemes from pilot scale to full scale field application.
3. Implementation of specialised technologies such as ERD, side track, horizontal and drain hole drilling.
4. Obtaining services of international experts wherever considered necessary.

(b) ONGC and OIL plan to intensify their exploration/ production activities in already proven areas besides extending its efforts into frontier areas like Central Indian basins of Vindhyan and Gondwana, North East, deep water offshore areas, North Bank of Brahamputra and Ganga Valley in Western U.P.

(c) and (d). The measures taken by the Government to accelerate exploration and production are -

(i) Offering of acreages under exploration bidding rounds. So far 8 exploration bidding rounds and one JV exploration programme have been announced.

(ii) Offering of small and medium sized oil/gas fields for development.

(iii) Launching of Accelerated Programme of Exploration in 1994.

(iv) The projects/schemes of oil production sanctioned by the Government during 1995 and 1996 which are presently under implementation are -

(i) Development of B-119/121 structure.

(ii) Development of B-173A, B-55 and Heera Phase-III structure in Western Offshore.

(iii) Application of Insitu Combustion Technology at Balol and Santhal.

(v) The schemes which are likely to be undertaken in 1997 are -

i. Additional development of Bombay High North-II.

ii. Installation of Booster Compressor in Bassein field.

Letter Received in Kendriya Bhandar

148. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters received in the Kendriya Bhandar and by the Government from the Members of Parliament during 1996 till date;

(b) the action taken thereon; and

(c) the time by which the pending letters will be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Kendriya Bhandar received 6 letters from Members of Parliament during 1996 till

date and the Government received 9 letters concerning Kendriya Bhandar.

(b) Final replies have been sent to the Members of Parliament in 5 cases.

(c) The replies to the remaining 10 letters from the Members of Parliament which were either received recently or which require a detailed analysis will be sent at the earliest.

Shortage of LPG

149. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of LPG in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure sufficient supply of LPG;

(c) whether any study has been made to ascertain number of applicants waiting for LPG connection, State-wise; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). The demand of the existing consumers of LPG in the country, who are enrolled with the distributors of Public Sector Oil Companies, is by and large being met in full. Temporary backlog that may arise, are cleared by augmenting LPG supplies through operation of bottling plants for extended hours and on holidays and by arranging supplies from bottling plants in adjoining areas.

(c) and (d). The registration for LPG connections is an on-going process. As on 1.10.96 the number of persons on waiting list for LPG connections is 136.22 lakhs. A State-wise statement of wait-listed persons is annexed.

STATEMENT

Statewise Waiting List as on 1.10.96

States	Figure in Lakhs
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	10.23
Arunachal Pradesh	0.17
Assam	1.70
Bihar	3.94
Goa	0.92
Gujarat	8.34
Haryana	4.96
Himachal Pradesh	0.98
Jammu and Kashmir	1.12
Karnataka	7.05
Kerala	6.56
Madhya Pradesh	6.96
Maharashtra	18.19
Manipur	0.06
Meghalaya	0.06
Mizoram	0.08
Nagaland	0.05
Orissa	1.96
Punjab	7.29
Rajasthan	7.26
Sikkim	0.01
Tamilnadu	14.43
Tripura	0.35
Uttar Pradesh	14.53
West Bengal	9.86
Union Territories	
Andaman and Nicobar	0.11
Chandigarh	0.91
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.02
Delhi	7.59
Daman and Diu	0.05
Lakshadweep	.00
Pondicherry	0.47

Oman Gas Project

150. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ministry of Finance had questioned the cost-effectiveness of the purchase of Oman Gas through under-water pipeline;

(b) whether before India came forward no one was ready to purchase the gas, which cost Oman Company only 90 cents/MMBTU; and

(c) whether the Joint Working Group recently formed is expected to study this aspect also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Apart from the Oman-India project, Oman is also setting up a project for the export of LNG.

(c) The Joint Working Group will examine ways of expediting the feasibility study and will also identify agencies to finance the project.